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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
(HONORABLE JANIS L. SAMMARTINO)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)	CASE NO. 08CR0828-JLS
)	
Plaintiff,)	DATE: June 6, 2008
)	TIME: 1:30 p.m.
v.)	
)	STATEMENT OF FACTS AND
JOSE CARMEN RIVAS-CHAVEZ,)	MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND
)	AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT OF MOTIONS
Defendant.)	

I.

BACKGROUND

On February 21, 2008, Mr. Rivas was arrested. On March 20, 2008, the government filed a three-count information charging violations of 8 U.S.C. § 1325.

These motions follow.

II.

MOTION TO COMPEL DISCOVERY/PRESERVE EVIDENCE

Mr. Rivas moves for the production of the following discovery. This request is not limited to those items that the prosecutor knows of, but rather includes all discovery listed below that is in the custody, control, care, or knowledge of any "closely related investigative [or other] agencies." See United States v. Bryan, 868 F.2d 1032 (9th Cir. 1989).

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1 Mr. Rivas has received only 35 pages of discovery and a DVD in this case. Mr. Rivas has reason to
2 believe that he has not yet received all the discoverable material in his case. In particular, Mr. Rivas
3 specifically requests copies of **all documents proving the convictions which allegedly enhance his**
4 **sentence**. Mr. Rivas also specifically requests copies of the **audiotapes of his removal hearing(s)** as well
5 as **all documents memorializing any removal proceedings** and any other proceedings that the government
6 intends to rely upon at trial.

7 He has also not received a **full copy of his A-file**. Mr. Rivas thus requests the opportunity to examine
8 his A-file in its entirety. First, the A-file will have documentation concerning prior deportation(s). Part of
9 Mr. Rivas's defense in this case may be that his underlying deportation was invalid. The documents in the
10 A-file would help illuminate the validity or futility of such a defense. For example, A-file documents
11 typically contain biographical information. Such information is essential to determining whether Mr. Rivas's
12 deportation is invalid.

13 Second, the government will likely try to show, at trial, that a government officer searched the A-file
14 and did not find an application by Mr. Rivas for permission to enter the United States. Mr. Rivas anticipates
15 that the government will attempt to admit a "Certificate of Non-Existence" against him, arguing that if Mr.
16 Rivas had ever applied for permission to enter the United States, such an application would be found in the
17 A-file, and because such an application is not in the A-file, Mr. Rivas must not have applied for permission
18 to enter the United States. Should such a certificate be admitted, the thoroughness of the search of the A-file
19 should be open to cross-examination. United States v. Sager, 227 F.3d 1138, 1145 (2000) (error not to allow
20 jury to "grade the investigation."). Mr. Rivas should be able to search his A-file to see whether any
21 application for lawful admission exists. Moreover, Mr. Rivas should also be able to verify whether other
22 documents that would ordinarily be in the A-file are "non-existent," or otherwise missing from his A-file.
23 Mr. Rivas may assert a defense that his application for lawful entry was lost or otherwise misplaced by the
24 government. He must be allowed the opportunity to review his A-file and the manner in which it is being
25 maintained by the government in order to present this defense.

26 In addition, Mr. Rivas moves for the production of the following discovery:

27 (1) The Defendant's Statements. The government must disclose to the defendant all copies of any
28 written or recorded statements made by the defendant; the substance of any statements made by the defendant

1 which the government intends to offer in evidence at trial -- either in its case-in-chief or in rebuttal; see id.,
 2 any response by the defendant to interrogation; the substance of any oral statements which the government
 3 intends to introduce at trial and any written summaries of the defendant's oral statements contained in the
 4 handwritten notes of the government agent; any response to any Miranda warnings which may have been
 5 given to the defendant; as well as any other statements by the defendant. Fed. R. Crim. P. 16(a)(1)(A)¹. The
 6 Advisory Committee Notes and the 1991 Amendments to Rule 16 make clear that the Government must
 7 reveal all the defendant's statements, whether oral or written, regardless of whether the government intends
 8 to make any use of those statements. Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 16 is designed "to protect the
 9 defendant's rights to a fair trial." United States v. Rodriguez, 799 F.2d 649 (11th Cir. 1986); see also United
 10 States v. Noe, 821 F.2d 604, 607 (11th Cir. 1987) (reversing conviction for failure to provide statements
 11 offered in rebuttal -- government's failure to disclose statements made by the defendant is a serious detriment
 12 to preparing trial and defending against criminal charges).

13 (2) Arrest Reports and Notes. The defendant also specifically requests that the government turn
 14 over all arrest reports, notes and TECS records not already produced that relate to the circumstances
 15 surrounding his arrest or any questioning. This request includes, but is not limited to, any rough notes,
 16 records, reports, transcripts, referral slips, or other documents in which statements of the defendant or any
 17 other discoverable material is contained. Such material is discoverable under Fed. R. Crim. P. 16(a)(1)(A)
 18 and Brady v. Maryland. The government must produce arrest reports, investigators' notes, memos from
 19 arresting officers, sworn statements, and prosecution reports pertaining to the defendant. See Fed. R. Crim.
 20 P. 16(a)(1)(B) and (C), 26.2 and 12(I); United States v. Harris, 543 F.2d 1247, 1253 (9th Cir. 1976) (original
 21 notes with suspect or witness must be preserved); see also United States v. Anderson, 813 F.2d 1450, 1458
 22 (9th Cir. 1987) (reaffirming Harris' holding).

23 (3) Brady Material. The defendant requests all documents, statements, agents' reports, and
 24 tangible evidence favorable to the defendant on the issue of guilt and/or which affects the credibility of the
 25 government's case. Kyles v. Whitley, 514 U.S. 419 (1995). Under Brady, Kyles and their progeny,
 26 impeachment, as well as exculpatory evidence, falls within the definition of evidence favorable to the
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28 ¹ Of course, any of Mr. Rivas's statements, which are exculpatory, must be produced, as well. See Brady v. Maryland, 373 U.S. 83 (1963).

1 accused. See also United States v. Bagley, 473 U.S. 667 (1985); United States v. Agurs, 427 U.S. 97 (1976).

2 This includes information obtained from other investigations which exculpates Mr. Rivas.

3 (4) Any Information That May Result in a Lower Sentence Under The Guidelines. The
4 government must also produce this information under Brady v. Maryland. This request includes any
5 cooperation or attempted cooperation by the defendant, as well as any information, including that obtained
6 from other investigations or debriefings, that could affect any base offense level or specific offense
7 characteristic under Chapter Two of the Guidelines. The defendant also requests any information relevant
8 to a Chapter Three adjustment, a determination of the defendant's criminal history, and information relevant
9 to any other application of the Guidelines.

10 (5) The Defendant's Prior Record. The defendant requests disclosure of his prior record.
11 Fed. R. Crim. P. 16(a)(1)(B).

12 (6) Any Proposed 404(b) Evidence. The government must produce evidence of prior similar acts
13 under Fed. R. Crim. P. 16(a)(1)(C) and Fed. R. Evid. 404(b) and 609. In addition, "upon request of the
14 accused, the prosecution . . . shall provide reasonable notice in advance of trial . . . of the general nature" of
15 any evidence the government proposes to introduce under Fed. R. Evid. 404(b) at trial and the purpose for
16 which introduction is sought. This applies not only to evidence which the government may seek to introduce
17 in its case-in-chief, but also to evidence which the government may use as rebuttal. See United States v.
18 Vega, 188 F.3d 1150 (9th Cir. 1999). The defendant is entitled to "reasonable notice" so as to "reduce
19 surprise," preclude "trial by ambush" and prevent the "possibility of prejudice." Id.; United States v. Perez-
20 Tosta, 36 F.3d 1552, 1560-61 (11th Cir. 1994). Mr. Rivas requests such reasonable notice at least two weeks
21 before trial so as to adequately investigate and prepare for trial.

22 (7) Evidence Seized. The defendant requests production of evidence seized as a result of any
23 search, either warrantless or with a warrant. Fed. R. Crim. P. 16(a)(1)(C).

24 (8) Request for Preservation of Evidence. The defendant specifically requests the preservation
25 of any and all physical evidence that may be destroyed, lost, or otherwise put out of the possession, custody,
26 or care of the government and which relates to the arrest or the events leading to the arrest in this case. This
27 request includes, but is not limited to, the results of any fingerprint analysis, the defendant's personal effects,
28 and any evidence seized from the defendant or any third party in relation to this case.

1 (9) Henthorn Material. Mr. Rivas requests that the Assistant United States Attorney assigned to
2 this case oversee a review of all personnel files of each agent involved in the present case for impeachment
3 material. Kyles, 514 U.S. at 419; United States v. Henthorn, 931 F.2d 29 (9th Cir. 1991); United States v.
4 Lacy, 896 F. Supp. 982 (N.D. Ca. 1995). At a minimum, the prosecutor has the obligation to inquire of his
5 agents in order to ascertain whether or not evidence relevant to veracity or other impeachment exists.

6 (10) Tangible Objects. The defendant requests the opportunity to inspect and copy, as well as test,
7 if necessary, all other documents and tangible objects, including photographs, books, papers, documents,
8 fingerprint analyses, vehicles, or copies of portions thereof, which are material to the defense or intended for
9 use in the government's case-in-chief or were obtained from or belong to the defendant. Fed. R. Crim.
10 P. 16(a)(1)(C). Specifically, to the extent they were not already produced, the defendant requests copies of
11 all photographs in the government's possession, including, but not limited to, the defendant and any other
12 photos taken in connection with this case.

13 (11) Expert Witnesses. The defendant requests the name, qualifications, and a written summary
14 of the testimony of any person that the government intends to call as an expert witness during its case in chief.
15 Fed. R. Crim. P. 16(a)(1)(E). The defense requests that notice of expert testimony be provided at a minimum
16 of two weeks prior to trial so that the defense can properly prepare to address and respond to this testimony,
17 including obtaining its own expert and/or investigating the opinions and credentials of the government's
18 expert. The defense also requests a hearing in advance of trial to determine the admissibility of qualifications
19 of any expert. See Kumho v. Carmichael Tire Co. 119 S. Ct. 1167, 1176 (1999) (trial judge is "gatekeeper"
20 and must determine reliability and relevancy of expert testimony and such determinations may require
21 "special briefing or other proceedings . . .").

22 (12) Evidence of Bias or Motive to Lie. The defendant requests any evidence that any prospective
23 government witness is biased or prejudiced against the defendant, or has a motive to falsify or distort his or
24 her testimony.

25 (13) Impeachment Evidence. The defendant requests any evidence that any prospective
26 government witness has engaged in any criminal act whether or not resulting in a conviction and whether any
27 witness has made a statement favorable to the defendant. See Fed. R. Evid. 608, 609 and 613; Brady v.
28 Maryland.

1 (14) Evidence of Criminal Investigation of Any Government Witness. The defendant requests any
2 evidence that any prospective witness is under investigation by federal, state or local authorities for any
3 criminal conduct.

4 (15) Evidence Affecting Perception, Recollection, Ability to Communicate, or Truth Telling. The
5 defense requests any evidence, including any medical or psychiatric report or evaluation, that tends to show
6 that any prospective witness' ability to perceive, remember, communicate, or tell the truth is impaired, and
7 any evidence that a witness has ever used narcotics or other controlled substance, or has ever been an
8 alcoholic.

9 (16) Jencks Act Material. The defendant requests production in advance of trial of all material,
10 including any tapes, which the government must produce pursuant to the Jencks Act, 18 U.S.C. § 3500;
11 Fed. R. Crim. P. 26.2. Advance production will avoid the possibility of delay at the request of the defendant
12 to investigate the Jencks material. A verbal acknowledgment that "rough" notes constitute an accurate
13 account of the witness' interview is sufficient for the report or notes to qualify as a statement under section
14 3500(e)(1). Campbell v. United States, 373 U.S. 487, 490-92 (1963); see also United States v. Boshell, 952
15 F.2d 1101 (9th Cir. 1991) (holding that, where an agent goes over interview notes with subject, interview notes
16 are subject to Jencks Act).

17 (17) Giglio Information. Pursuant to Giglio v. United States, 405 U.S. 150 (1972), the defendant
18 requests all statements and/or promises, express or implied, made to any government witnesses, in exchange
19 for their testimony in this case, and all other information which could arguably be used for the impeachment
20 of any government witnesses.

21 (18) Agreements Between the Government and Witnesses. In this case, the defendant requests
22 identification of any cooperating witnesses who have committed crimes, but were not charged, so that they
23 may testify for the government in this case. The defendant also requests discovery regarding any express or
24 implicit promise; understanding; offer of immunity; past, present, or future compensation; or any other kind
25 of agreement or understanding, including any implicit understanding relating to criminal or civil income tax,
26 forfeiture or fine liability between any prospective government witness and the government (federal, state
27 and/or local). This request also includes any discussion with a potential witness about, or advice concerning,
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1 any contemplated prosecution, or any possible plea bargain, even if no bargain was made, or the advice not
2 followed.

3 Pursuant to United States v. Sudikoff, 36 F.Supp.2d 1196 (C.D. Cal. 1999), the defense requests all
4 statements made, either personally or through counsel, at any time, which relate to the witnesses' statements
5 regarding this case, any promises -- implied or express -- regarding punishment/prosecution or detention of
6 these witnesses, any agreement sought, bargained for or requested, on the part of the witness at any time.

7 (19) Informants and Cooperating Witnesses. To the extent that there was any informant, or any
8 other tip leading to a TECS hit in this case, the defendant requests disclosure of the names and addresses of
9 all informants or cooperating witnesses used, or to be used, in this case, and in particular, disclosure of any
10 informant who was a percipient witness in this case or otherwise participated in the crime charged against
11 Mr. Rivas. The government must disclose the informant's identity and location, as well as the existence of
12 any other percipient witness unknown or unknowable to the defense. Roviaro v. United States, 353 U.S. 53,
13 61-62 (1957). The government must disclose any information derived from informants which exculpates or
14 tends to exculpate the defendant.

15 (20) Bias by Informants or Cooperating Witnesses. The defendant requests disclosure of any
16 information indicating bias on the part of any informant or cooperating witness. Giglio v. United States.
17 Such information would include what, if any, inducements, favors, payments or threats were made to the
18 witness to secure cooperation with the authorities.

19 (21) Inspection and Copying of A-File. **As noted above, Mr. Rivas requests that this Court**
20 **order the government to produce a full copy of all A-files and recordings of all deportation proceedings**
21 **relevant to Mr. Rivas, or in the alternative make such materials available for inspection and copying.**

22 (22) Residual Request. Mr. Rivas intends, by this discovery motion, to invoke his rights to
23 discovery to the fullest extent possible under the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure and the Constitution
24 and laws of the United States. Mr. Rivas requests that the government provide his attorney with the above-
25 requested material sufficiently in advance of trial to avoid unnecessary delay prior to cross-examination.

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1 **III.**

2 **MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE ADDITIONAL MOTIONS**

3 Mr. Rivas and defense counsel have received limited discovery in this case. Specifically, after
4 viewing the A-file, Mr. Rivas may file a motion attacking the validity of his alleged deportation, as well as
5 a motion to suppress any statements by Mr. Rivas. In addition, if the government files an indictment in this
6 matter, Mr. Rivas may file motions attacking the validity of that indictment. Finally, as new information
7 surfaces due to the government providing discovery in response to these motions, or an order of this Court,
8 the defense may find it necessary to file further motions, or to supplement existing motions with additional
9 facts.

10 **IV.**

11 **CONCLUSION**

12 For the foregoing reasons, Mr. Rivas respectfully requests that the Court grant the above motions.

13 Respectfully submitted,

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15 DATED: May 9, 2008

/s/ Jennifer L. Coon

JENNIFER L. COON

Federal Defenders of San Diego, Inc.

Attorneys for Mr. Rivas

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Counsel for Defendant certifies that the foregoing pleading is true and accurate to the best of information and belief, and that a copy of the foregoing document has been caused to be delivered this day upon:

Courtesy Copy Court

Assistant United States Attorney via ECF

Dated: May 9, 2008

/s/ Jennifer L. Coon
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